His Maiesties Letter

January the 24. 1641.

In answer to the PETITION of both Houses of Parliament, as it was presented by the Earle of *Newport*, and the Lord *SETMER*, *Jan.* 21. 1641.

Likewise the Copie of a Letter sent from *Scotland* by the Lord *Rothes*, to the Lords Commissioners here in *England* for that Kingdome, being the Lord *Lowden*, and the Earle of *Lindsey*.

Together with an information of two Letters by some persons privately intended for *France*, which were intercepted by the way, and conveyed into *England*.

LONDON, Printed for *John Thomas*, 1641.

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His Majesties Letter

January the 24. 1641.

HIs Majesty having seene and considered the Petition presented unto Him, the one and twentieth of this instant, by the Earle of Newport, and the Lord Seymer, in the names of both Houses of Parliament, Is pleased to returne this Answer. That hee doth well approve of the desire of both Houses, for the speedy proceeding against the persons mentioned in the Petition; wherein His Majesty finding the great inconveniences by the first mistake in the way, hath endured some delayes, that hee might be informed in what Order to put the same; But before that that be agreed upon, His Majestie thinkes it unusuall, or unfit to discover what proofe is against them, and therefore holds it necessary, lest a new mistake should breed more delayes; which his Majesty to His power will avoid. That it be resolved whether His Majesty be bound in respect of Privileges to proceed against them by impeachment in Parliament; Or whether He be at liberty to preferre an Inditement at the Common-Law in the usuall way, or have His choice of either: Whereupon His Majesty will give such speedy directions for the prosecution, as shall shew his Majesties desire to satisfie both Houses, and to put a determination to the businesse.

A Letter sent from Scotland by the Lord Roshes, to the Lords Commissioners here in England for that Kingdome, being the Lord Londen and the Earle of LINSEY.

My LORDS,

Received a Letter from his Majesty by the Clarke of the Councell, commanding my immediate personall repaire to his Majesties presence for his Majesties service and my owne particulars. I can have no other particular at this time then what is concluded in the Common good of his Majesty, and this his ancient & Native Kingdome, whose humble demands were appointed to be presented by some of our Nation who were sent to his Majesty, by warrant under his Secretaries owne hand, so was I most desirous to have undergone a share of that employment, for satisfying my earnest desire to have expressed humbly and freely that which I did conceive to be best for his Majesties

justice [illegible] [illegible]
nesse of [illegible]
ly Consu[illegible]
her to [illegible]

I must also declare truely, that I shall not be permitted to come at this time, and the Country in this time of trouble, which we are providing for the relieve and assistance of the Protestants in *Ireland*, according to the Command of his Majesty and the desires and request of the Parliament in England; I cannot with conscience nor honour refuse a share of their difficulties, till it please his Majesty to redeeme them.

IF the reason why his Majesty hath sent for me doth proceed from a Letter written [illegible] of December last to the King of [illegible], which was intercepted, our whole proceedings in that business are truely related in this information; I have sent with this Letter, whereto there are many witnesses, all being done at a publique meeting and I am hopefull it will give his Majesty full satisfaction concerning our carriage, which makes me from the conscience of my duty to his Majesty, here humbly begg pardon, for [illegible] that as the Subjects of this poore Kingdome [illegible] extremely wronged by false report [illegible], and bad constructions of our [illegible] his Majesties owne naturall propension to goodnesse and justice much abused by them.

Let me by the most submissive and hearty desires that can proceed from an humble Subject,

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begge that his Majesty would heare the information here presented, and then put to the Tryall both theirs and the contrary information. Hereby truth shall be Discovered, his Majesty shall have a sure way to establish that which is just to punnish wickednes, to procure the unchangeable Love of his Subjects; and the Blessing of GOD Almighty, which all most heartily desire, by your Lordships humble servants and Friends.

ROTHES.

The Copie of the information sent to the KING.

After the receipt of the proclamation made in England, immediately following his Majesties last departure from *Scotland*, shewing the resolution of his Majestie, and his Parliament to send an Army into *Ireland* for the suppressing the Rebellion begun there, and to use all means for the defence of the Protestants both by Sea and Land, and hearing of the cruelties exercised by the Rebels especially upon our nation

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in that Kingdome we were aduised to deale with the French King to interpose himselfe with our Master, we resolved for the writing a Letter to him, some being appointed for the drawing thereof the same was perfected the next day at a publique meeting of many of the Nobility, Barons and Gentry, where some few subscribed the same hastily without reading, thinking it had beene reuised by the whole, who were appointed, and best understood the *French* tongue, one of the reuisers who had not seene it when it came to his hands, reading it, desired it might be heard in publique and cleered, and that some expreſſions therein were not fitted and differed from the instructions, that draught was reiected, being the very same that is now in *England* in his Majesties hands, which when it should have beene destroyed was surreptitiously taken and vsed to our disadvantage. Another Letter was appointed to be drawne conformable to the instructions which are vnderwritten, which Letters and instructions were subscribed by a great many, but afterwards conceiving that any mediation from the King of *France* with our Master, concerning the difference betweene the Protestants and Catholiques in *Ireland*, could not come in time to hinder the extremity which was so neere, we are resolved to retaine them both, and send no Letter at all. All this is truth, as I shall answer God, and can be verified by a hundred witnesses, all being done at publique meetings.

My

My Lords,

I desire your Lordships that this information may be presented to his Majesty and the Parliament in England, which I hope will give good Satisfaction concerning these Letters; and cleare my innocency from any private designe or intention to side with the Catholiques in *Ireland* by sending privately to the *Frenty* King, but onely to preserve so much blood as is daily shed in that Kingdome, and that my service if thither commanded, shall be faithful and dutifull to my Native King and lawfull Soveraigne.

FINIS.

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